

USAID/Cuba

FY 2001

Results Review and Resource Request

R4

April 1999

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Released on or after Oct. 1, 2001

USAID PROGRAM MANDATE FOR CUBA

The promotion of democracy abroad is one of the primary foreign policy objectives of the United States, and an important objective of USAID assistance programs overseas.

Throughout Latin America and the Caribbean--where all countries except Cuba have democratically elected governments--USAID is working with governments and civil society to strengthen democracy and democratic institutions.

The overarching goal of U.S. policy toward Cuba is to promote a peaceful transition to democracy on the island.

To that end, U.S. policy is proceeding on a multi-faceted track:

- pressure on the regime for change through the comprehensive economic embargo and Libertad sanctions;
- outreach to the Cuban people;
- the promotion and protection of human rights;
- multilateral efforts to press for democracy; and
- migration accords to promote safe, orderly and legal migration.

In October 1995, President Clinton announced a series of measures to encourage Cuba's peaceful transition to a free and open society. The President said the United States would promote democracy and the free flow of ideas, and would increase the ability of individual Americans and U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations (USNGOs) to contribute to the strengthening of civil society in Cuba. The measures included permission to open U.S. news bureaus on the island, and authorized support for the Cuban people, including the licensing of activities of recognized human rights organizations; and activities of individuals and non-governmental organizations to promote independent activity aimed at strengthening civil society in Cuba. The President also announced the first USAID grant in support of the Cuban people, in the form of a \$500,000 award to Freedom House. The Freedom House program disseminated informational materials, sponsored visits by external democratic activists to Cuba, published and disseminated materials written by democratic activists in Cuba, and provided modest humanitarian assistance to victims of repression.

The grant was authorized pursuant to the authority provided in the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992 (section 1705g), which allows the U.S. government (USG) to provide assistance "through appropriate non governmental organizations, for the support of individuals and organizations to promote nonviolent democratic change in Cuba."

The Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act of 1996 (section 109a) further elaborates on the types of assistance and support the President is authorized to provide for individuals and independent non governmental organizations (NGOs) to support democracy-building efforts for Cuba, including:

- published and informational matter--such as books, videos, and cassettes--on transitions to democracy, human rights and market economies, to be made available to independent democratic groups in Cuba;
- humanitarian assistance to victims of political repression, as well as their families;
- support for democratic and human rights groups in Cuba; and
- support for visits and permanent deployment of independent international human rights monitors in Cuba.

As a matter of policy no USAID grantee is authorized to employ USAID funding to provide cash assistance to groups or individuals within Cuba.

U.S. policy encourages U.S. NGOs and individuals to undertake humanitarian, informational and civil society building activities in Cuba with private funds, subject to applicable Treasury and Commerce Department regulations. Dozens of NGOs have been engaging in such activities over the last several years, with licensed humanitarian goods alone amounting to about \$150 million.

The level of USAID funding for section 109 activities in Cuba has steadily increased since the first Freedom House Grant in July 1996: FY 1996 (\$.5M); FY 1997 (\$1.5m); FY 1998 (\$2.5m); FY 1999 (\$3.5m).

The intent of the USG is to support activities for which adequate private resources are not presently available, which offer favorable prospects for serving a catalytic or leveraging role in promoting a peaceful transition, and which help the Cuban people..

A peaceful democratic transition in Cuba must stem from the successful initiatives of Cubans on the island who seek to build civil society and promote respect for human rights on the island. Moreover, it will require that Cubans develop the means to peacefully reconcile conflicts during the transition--be they economic, social or political.

USAID will consider funding proposals by U.S. NGOs that help the Cuban people achieve these objectives. To be considered for funding, a proposed activity must be consistent with

overall U.S. policy toward Cuba and be deemed feasible in view of the present conditions of repression on the island.

Factors to be considered in grant awards include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the extent to which the activity leverages additional assistance from non-USG sources;
- the ability of the NGO to adequately manage the activity and account for USAID grant funds;
- the extent to which the activity opens new avenues for promoting a peaceful democratic transition in Cuba; and
- the extent to which the activity builds capability/knowledge of independent individuals and groups on the island that will contribute to a peaceful transition once the process of political change has begun.

SECTION I. Factors Affecting Program Performance

The Cuban Context

A vigorous, independent civil society is vital to shaping and smoothing the way for a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba. The present state of Cuban civil society is extremely weak. Fidel Castro and the Communist Party of Cuba dominate the political landscape, control the economic system, and strive to maintain a monopoly on the flow of information to, from and within the island. As long as Castro remains in power, most analysts predict little intentional loosening of government controls. Once Castro is gone, the prospects for peaceful transition will hinge on the ability of a renascent Cuban civil society to help reconcile conflicts and prepare the Cuban nation for peaceful democratic change.

In January, 1999, a year after the historic visit to Cuba of Pope John Paul II, the Clinton Administration announced new U.S. measures to strengthen support for civil society in Cuba through outreach to the Cuban people. These measures would broaden people-to-people contacts, permit increased remittances from U.S. residents, and expand direct passenger charter flights. They would also permit purchases of U.S. food and agricultural inputs by Cuba's private farmers and independent entities, establish direct mail service, enhance Radio Marti capabilities, and expand U.S. public diplomacy efforts around the world.

The Cuban Government immediately denounced the U.S. measures as <subversive> and then passed draconian legislation imposing 10 to 20 year prison sentences for any Cuban citizen found to be <cooperating> with the United States Government or to be in possession of prohibited printed material. In March, 1999, the Cuban Government put on trial for <sedition> four of Cuba's most prominent human rights activists. The four had been held without charge for 19 months, following their publication of a document (*The Homeland Belongs to All*) calling for peaceful public debate in Cuba on human rights and democratic reforms. During the trial, which was closed to foreign observers, the Government arrested a hundred Cuban dissidents in Havana to prevent them from staging street demonstrations. The four on trial were immediately found guilty and sentenced to an additional 3 and a half to 5 years in prison. The Government warned Cuba's independent journalists they were next.

International response to the Cuban Government crackdown ranged from outrage to disappointment. Free press around the world (*Le Monde*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *El Pais of Madrid*, *El Observador of Montevideo*, *The Toronto Star*, *Corriere Della Sera*, *Il Messaggero*, et. al.) clearly condemned the Cuban Government. The European Union, as well as the Governments of Canada, Spain, the United Kingdom and others called for immediate unconditional release of the four authors of *The Homeland Belongs to All*.

The Cuban Government's arrests of human rights activists, independent journalists and other peaceful democratic voices have heightened awareness of the human rights struggle in Cuba.

However, these Cuban Government actions also make it more difficult for U.S. universities, foundations and NGOs to reach out to independent groups on the island. The current Cuban context raises significant challenges to effective implementation, end-use monitoring and evaluation of the USAID Cuba program.

USAID will continue to promote a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba, by helping to increase the free flow of accurate information on democracy and human rights to, from, and within Cuba. We will continue to take into account the views of Cuba's democratic activists. We will look for innovative ways to communicate directly with the Cuban people.

There is a sense in Cuba and in the international community that the beginning of the end of the regime is approaching. The political and intellectual task for the U.S. and others who want to see positive change in Cuba is to use the time available before rapid change occurs to increase the prospects that the transition will not be chaotic – that it will be peaceful, and will take a democratic direction.

USAID believes the primary obstacle to democratic change in Cuba is the absence of a strong and independent civil society. Therefore -- within the context of the embargo, the Cuba Democracy Act, and the Libertad Act -- we seek to help the Cuban people prepare for change by facilitating greater communication and other exchanges with the United States. We believe this constructive and responsive approach to the Cuban people will help them chart their own peaceful and orderly transition to democracy.

Highlights of USAID Cuba Program Accomplishments

During FY 1998 and early FY 1999, in collaboration with the National Security Council, the Department of State, and the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, and in close consultation with the Congress, USAID developed and began to implement a comprehensive Cuba Program strategy. (A formal USAID review of the strategy will soon be underway.) The strategic framework, fleshed out by grants to USAID partners, is as follows:

Program Goal: Promote a Peaceful Transition to Democracy in Cuba
 By Assisting Development of Cuban Civil Society

Objective: Increase the Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and
 Human Rights To, From, and Within Cuba

Intermediate Results:

A. Build Solidarity with Cuba's Human Rights Activists

The Freedom House Transitions project provided 40,000 Spanish language books, pamphlets and other materials to the Cuban people, on transition to democracy and free market economics.

The Center for a Free Cuba successfully delivered communications equipment to independent Cuban NGOs in early 1998.

The Institute for Democracy in Cuba delivered more than 5,500 pounds of food and medicine, as well as informational materials to the families of political prisoners and to other victims of repression in Cuba.

The Cuban Dissidence Task Group published and disseminated writings of the four authors of *The Homeland Belongs to Us All*, as well as other material from inside Cuba.

The International Republican Institute and the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Directorate established solidarity committees in Mexico and Dominican Republic which successfully pressed the Cuban Government to release several Cuban human rights activists.

B. Give Voice to Cuba's Independent Journalists

Cuba Free Press published on the internet more than three thousand articles by Cuba's independent journalists.

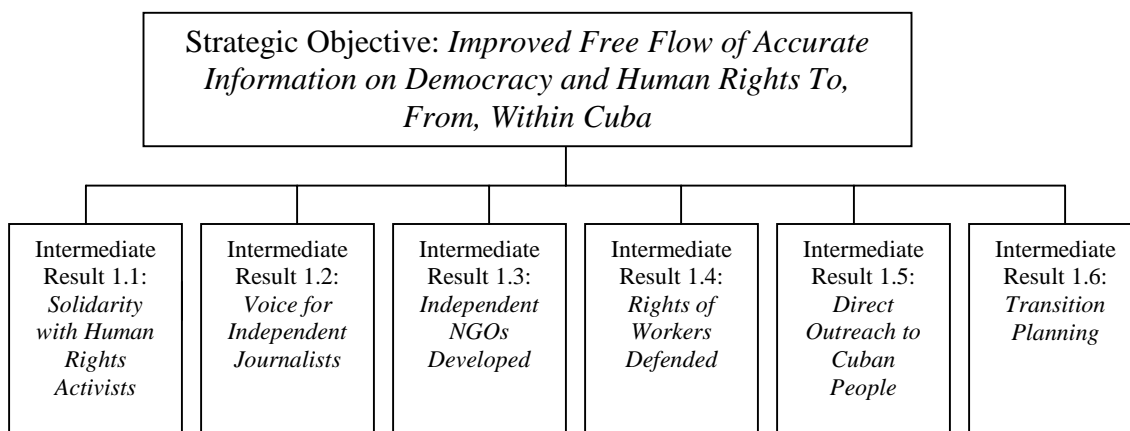
C. Help Develop Independent Cuban NGOs

Partners of the Americas sponsored travel of sixteen individuals to and from Cuba for professional exchanges between Cuban and Latin American NGOs working in environmental and drug education programs.

D. Defend the Rights of Cuban Workers

The American Center for International Labor Solidarity, travelling to Cuba with the Inter American Regional Organization (ORIT) of the International Confederation of Trade Unions (ICFTU), met with Cuban Government Labor officials and pressed for internally recognized workers rights to collective bargaining and direct compensation.

Section II. Progress Toward Objectives



Performance Analysis

USAID Cuba Program progress has been encouraging, in spite of a challenging operating environment. Results are due to the extraordinary courage of Cuba's human rights activists and independent journalists, and to the commitment, skills and contacts of U.S. NGO partners. Accurate information on human rights and democracy has begun to flow to, from, and within Cuba as never before in the forty-year history of the Castro regime.

Since FY 1997, USAID has approved sixteen grants, worth \$4.5 million, to U.S. NGOs for work in Cuba. USAID has authorized an additional \$2. million for grants and grant extensions that are now being negotiated.

National Interest

The USAID Cuba program is specifically authorized by the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992 (section 1705g) and the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act of 1996 (section 109a). USAID implements the program in close coordination with the Inter Agency Working Group: Support for the Cuban People, which USAID co-chairs with the Department of State.

IR. 1.1 Increased Solidarity with Cuba's Human Rights Activists

Solidarity with Cuba's human rights activists helps ensure they not only survive physically, but their ideas flourish, receiving international recognition and support from the Cuban people who are increasingly aware of and sympathetic to their work.

The program provides moral support, information, and modest amounts of food and medicine to Cuba's political prisoners and their families, and to the other brave men and women on the island who continue to call for peaceful national dialogue, and for Cuban Government adherence to the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights. USAID does not provide cash assistance to any individuals or groups in Cuba. However, USAID funds US NGOs to send pens, paper, books, video cassettes, typewriters, fax machines and other communications equipment to democratic activists in Cuba. For example, during FY 1988 and early FY 1999,

The Center for a Free Cuba successfully delivered 40 fax machines and other communications equipment to independent Cuban organizations on the island. The Center funded travel to Cuba by Central European representatives of private relief and human rights organizations. These individuals met with Cuban activists, dissidents, journalists and families of political prisoners to exchange ideas and to provide moral and material support..

The Center distributed more than 800 books, newspapers, pamphlets and video cassettes on political and economic issues to Cuban activists. Materials included: *Desde Cuba con Valor*, *Fin de Siglo en La Havana*, and *Carta de Cuba*. All these materials support a peaceful transition to democracy and a free market economy in Cuba.

The Center published and distributed one thousand copies of its report, *The Papal Journey on Balance: the Response to Date*, to NGOs, government officials and the mass media throughout Latin America and Europe. The report catalogues ongoing abuses of human rights in Cuba, illustrated by the nineteen month incarceration, closed trial, <conviction> and sentencing of four of Cuba's most prominent human rights activists: Marta Beatriz Roque, Felix Antonio Bonne Carcasses, Rene Gomez Manzano, and Vladamiro Roca.

The Institute for Democracy in Cuba delivered more than 5,500 pounds of food and medicine to the families of political prisoners and to other victims of government repression throughout the island.

The Institute sent to Cuba more than seventy books dealing with civil society and human rights, as well as the writings of Cuba's human rights activists.

The Institute sent two thousand copies of its periodical, *Somos Uno*, to the island each month.

The Cuban Dissidence Task Group helped win international support for the work of the imprisoned activists: economist Marta Beatriz Roque; Felix Antonio Bonne Carcasses, an engineer; Rene Gomez Manzano, a lawyer; and Vladimiro Roca, a former MIG fighter pilot

and son of founding Cuban Communist Party member, Blas Roca. The four were arrested in July 1997 for publishing a pamphlet, *The Homeland Belongs to All of U.S.*, which calls for a peaceful national dialogue on political and economic reform. After nineteen months imprisonment without charge, the four were put on trial in March 1999 for <sedition> and sentenced to additional prison terms of from three and a half to five years. The Cuban Government closed the trial to the Cuban public, the free press and the international diplomatic community.

The Cuban Dissidence Task Group published and disseminated worldwide the written analysis of these four prominent activists, as well as that of the centers which they founded:

- 1) The Civil Society and Democracy Center, which seeks to empower the emerging Cuban civil society through analysis of national and international political developments;
- 2) The Business and Economics Center, which analyzes the Cuban economy and trains Cuban professional economists in free market economics;
- 3) The Felix Varela Law Center, which supports Cuban lawyers in their research concerning Cuban laws and institutions which must be eliminated or modified to permit a peaceful transition from totalitarianism to democracy; and
- 4) The Labor Center, which analyzes and promotes collective bargaining, labor processes and the formation of independent labor unions on the island.

The Task Group also provided modest amounts of humanitarian assistance (food and medicine) to political prisoners and their families and other victims of government repression, such as those who have lost employment or who have been physically attacked because of their peaceful human rights activities.

The International Republican Institute helped create and bolster international solidarity committees in Latin America and Europe, to provide material, moral and ideological support for democratic activists in Cuba.

IRI signed a sub-grant with the Miami-based Cuban Revolutionary Directorate. The Directorate established solidarity links between civil societies in third countries and the incipient civil society in Cuba.

The Directorate worked with other human rights organizations to develop the "Accord for Democracy," a statement of general principles on the transition to democracy in Cuba. On February 20, 1998, at Florida International University (FIU), more than 40 exile organizations and representatives of more than 30 organizations within Cuba officially signed the Accord.

The Directorio established Solidarity Centers in Mexico and Santo Domingo to work with Solidarity Committees in Chile, Spain, El Salvador, and in other countries to assist and promote the efforts of the Cuban human rights movement and to further generate international support.

The Directorio encouraged international support for the mothers of political prisoners in Cuba. These mothers are demanding a general amnesty for political prisoners. To support their efforts, Directorio representatives met in Europe during September 1998 with members of the European Parliament, political leaders, NGOs and Cuban exiles in Spain, the Netherlands and Belgium.

The Santo Domingo office held a press conference to keep attention focused on the amnesty campaign. The office began broadcasting a radio program inside the Dominican Republic concerning the Cuban pro-democracy movement and the status of human rights in Cuba. In early August, prior to Castro's visit to the Dominican Republic, the office organized Dominican press interviews concerning conditions inside Cuba. The Santo Domingo Center featured interviews with dissidents during a weekly Sunday radio program, *Ecos de la Semana*.

Publicity generated by the Santo Domingo and Mexico Centers combined with high-level foreign official contacts made by solidarity supporters in Chile, Argentina, Poland and Spain, to help secure the release of Cuban activists arrested for participating in a public commemoration of Human Rights Day in Cuba

The Freedom House Cuban Democracy Project is organizing a program to promote the formation of civic organizations in Cuba, and their linkage to one another and to those in free democracies in Europe (including the former Eastern bloc countries),

IR 1.2 Voice Given to Cuba's Independent Journalists

With the collapse of the Soviet bloc and the advance of globalization and modern telecommunications, the Cuban people now enjoy some access to the outside world. For the first time in forty years, independent voices in Cuba can communicate by telephone to relatives and others in the United States, Europe, Latin America and elsewhere. Although the Cuban Government still attempts to monitor and control outside contact, the sheer volume of telephone communications impedes its ability to do so. Accounts transmitted by telephone can be transcribed and published in hard copy as well as over the internet, to report human rights abuses and other conditions in Cuba. A growing number of Cuban citizens, some of whom once worked for the government press, now send their independent reporting worldwide. USAID grantees assist this effort. And, while the ordinary Cuban citizen does not enjoy access to the internet, USAID grantees send hard copy versions of these stories back onto the island for distribution.

The Cuba Free Press project assists professional and other independent writers and journalists inside Cuba. Since it was founded in July 1997, CFP has maintained an internet web site <cubafreepress.org> which has collected and published more than 3,100 items of news and analysis from independent Cuban journalists. CFP is currently expanding its contacts inside Cuba, and continues to disseminate the writings of independent Cuban writers and journalists

via the internet and in tabloid copy. One thousand copies of the tabloid are published monthly and distributed in Cuba.

Florida International University's School of Journalism is developing a program to help improve the professional skills of Cuba's independent journalists.

IR 1.3 Independent Cuban NGOs Developed

Partners of the Americas helped establish professional and institutional linkages among emerging Cuban community grassroots and professional organizations, cooperatives and other counterpart organizations in Latin America. The project has sponsored the travel of 16 individuals to and from Cuba for work on environmental and drug education issues

Pan American Development Foundation establishes linkages among Cuban NGOs and counterpart NGOs operating elsewhere in the Americas, to demonstrate how NGOs function within democratic societies to help conserve, manage and protect natural resources.

The Sabre Foundation is establishing a program to donate new books and other informational materials on democratic transition to independent Cuban NGOs in order to benefit the Cuban people.

IR 1.4 Rights of Cuban Workers Defended

The American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS) worked with trade union movements worldwide to persuade foreign firms to respect the rights of Cuban workers in their operations inside Cuba. ACILS is monitoring the firms' performance, and will train leaders of emerging independent associations of Cuban workers.

ACILS traveled to Cuba on a delegation with the Inter- American Regional organization (ORIT) of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) to attend an International Labor Organization (ILO) conference, and met with counterparts in Cuban government as well as independent labor organizations.

ACILS has begun to systematically track new foreign direct investment in Cuba, and has commissioned an in-depth analysis of the Cuban labor situation, which will be discussed during an international conference planned for later this year.

IR. 5 Transition Plans Initiated

To build upon themes outlined by President Clinton, in his 1997 report to Congress: *Support for a Democratic Transition in Cuba*, USAID has provided a number of grants to assist transition planning:

Rutgers University organized a conference in Washington in May 1999 to bring together a broad range of private and public sector Cuba experts to address specific issues relevant to USAID assistance to a future transition government and eventually to a democratically elected government in Cuba.

The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) completed an analysis of assistance required to support transitional elections in Cuba. Without discussing the possible timing of elections, the study established guidelines, costs, and options concerning international assistance and the requirements for local administration of comprehensive voter registration and the conduct of free and fair presidential and congressional elections in Cuba. The project will disseminate its findings to the Cuban people.

The U.S-Cuba Business Council surveyed U.S. private sector resources and plans to assist the eventual reconstruction of the Cuban economy. The Council conducted a conference series on Cuba's democratic free market future which examined needed reforms and technical assistance in the financial, agricultural, industrial, and small business sectors. The Council will transmit the results to the Cuban people.

USCBC broadcast bi-monthly radio programs concerning free markets and democratic institutions as they operate in the U.S., and the benefits of structural and economic reform and integration into the global economy.

USCBC transmitted its <Cuba Voices> newsletter to independent organizations in Cuba.

PERFORMANCE DATA TABLES: CUBA

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba APPROVED: 07/01/1999 COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba SO INDICATOR: Percentage of Cuban People receiving accurate information on democracy and human rights.			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Percentage SOURCE: Survey of Recent Cuban Arrivals in U.S. INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: Percent of Survey respondents with knowledge of prominent Cuban dissident publications, such as <i>The Homeland Belongs to All</i> . COMMENTS: The 1999 baseline survey of 1200 recent Cuban arrivals is now being tabulated. The survey will be repeated in 2000.	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B		20
	2000	40	
	2001	60	
	2002	80	
	2003 T	100	

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba APPROVED: 07/01/1999 COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba			
RESULT NAME 1.1 : Increased Solidarity with Cuba's Human Rights Activists			
INDICATOR: Number of Independent Human Rights Organizations in Cuba providing information to the Cuban people.			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Number SOURCE Independent estimates INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: An estimate by the Dutch Catholic NGO, Pax Christi, of the number of "dissident" groups in Cuba, following the list compiled by The Cuban Christian Democratic Party (PDC).	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B	-----	380
	2000	400	
	2001	500	
	2002	600	
	2003 T	700	

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba			
APPROVED: 07/01/1999		COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba	
RESULT NAME 1.2: Increased Voice for Cuba's Independent Journalists			
INDICATOR: Stories Published via Internet			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Number SOURCE: CUBANET, CUBA FREE PRESS INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: The number of reports published on the web pages of CUBANET (<i>cubanet.org</i>) and CUBAFREE PRESS (<i>cubafreepress.org</i>) .	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B	-----	3,000
	2000	4,000	
	2001	5,000	
	2002	6,000	
	2003 T	7,000	

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba			
APPROVED: 07/01/1999		COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba	
RESULT NAME I.3: Independent Cuban NGOs Developed			
INDICATOR: Number of Independent Cuban NGOs			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Number SOURCE: Department of State INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: Cuban non governmental organizations independent of the Cuban Government with respect to membership, direction, policies and financing, as assessed by the Department of State.	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B	-----	TBD
	2000	TBD	
	2001	TBD	
	2002	TBD	
	2003 T	TBD	

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba. Approved 7/1/99 COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba			
RESULT NAME I.4: Rights of Cuban Workers Defended			
INDICATOR: International Advocacy Efforts			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Number SOURCE: Department of State INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: Number of Official Demarches by the American Regional Organization (ORIT) of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) COMMENTS: The American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS) of the AFL-CIO will gather this information through their contacts with ORIT and ICFTU.	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B	-----	TBD
	2000	TBD	
	2001	TBD	
	2002	TBD	
	2003 T	TBD	

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba. Approved 7/1/99 COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba			
RESULT NAME I.5: Direct Outreach to the Cuban People			
INDICATOR: Cuban citizens receiving accurate information			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Percentage SOURCE: Survey of Recent Emigrants from Cuba INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: Percentage of Cuban People who have received information by direct mail and/or AM Radio COMMENTS: The 1999 baseline survey of 1200 recent Cuban arrivals is now being tabulated. The survey will be repeated in 2000.	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B	-----	TBD
	2000	TBD	
	2001	TBD	
	2002	TBD	
	2003 T	TBD	

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE Enhanced Free Flow of Information of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights to, from and within Cuba			
APPROVED: 07/01/1999		COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION: USAID Cuba	
RESULT NAME I.6: Planning for Transition Communicated to Cuban People			
INDICATOR: Transition Plans Communicated to the Cuban People			
UNIT OF MEASURE: Number SOURCE: Grantee Reports INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: Cumulative Number of Transition Plans Communicated to the Cuban People in Hard Copy, by Radio and other Means COMMENTS: Transition Plans will cover sectors outlined in LIBERTAD Act, Section 202	YEAR	PLANNED	ACTUAL
	1999 B	-----	1
	2000	3	
	2001	5	
	2002	7	
	2003 T	10	

III. RESOURCE REQUEST

Financial Plan

Overview

The USAID Cuba Program has obligated approximately \$4.5 million in Economic Support Funds (ESF) since its inception in FY 1996. The program currently manages fifteen active grants. One grant has been completed. An additional \$ 2 million in new grants or grant extensions has been authorized. As of April 1999, there remains approximately \$1 million in FY 99-00 ESF funding to be programmed, authorized and obligated.

Grants are awarded on the basis of unsolicited proposals from U.S. universities and U.S. non-governmental organizations. The USAID web page presents the USAID Program Mandate, procedures for submitting grant proposals, and a list of current awards. Grant proposals are initially screened by an Inter Agency Working Group (IWG) co-chaired by USAID and the Department of State. Proposals cleared by the IWG then must pass a USAID internal technical review before being recommended for authorization by the USAID Assistant Administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean. Authorization is contingent upon the normal Congressional Notification process. Once that process is completed, the USAID Office of Procurement negotiates and approves the final award.

ESF Resources Requested for the Democracy Strategic Objective

The FY 2000 request includes the same ESF funding level as for FY 1999: \$3 million. Given the experimental nature of the program, and the need to carefully evaluate grantee performance and program results, USAID believes it prudent to maintain the current level of funding before committing higher levels of resources.

Achievement of the Program Goal -- Promotion of a Peaceful Transition to Democracy in Cuba through Development of Civil Society --requires contributions beyond those which USAID can reasonably provide or muster. However, it is in USAID's manageable interest to achieve the Program's Strategic Objective: Increased Free Flow of Accurate Information on Democracy and Human Rights To, From, and Within Cuba.

USAID will employ \$3 million in ESF funding to implement the following program elements which are key to accomplishment of the strategic objective:

- 1) Building solidarity with Cuba's human rights activists

- 2) Giving voice to Cuba's independent journalists
- 3) Helping develop independent Cuban NGOs
- 4) Defending the rights of Cuban workers
- 5) Providing direct outreach to the Cuban people
- 6) Planning for transition
- 7) Evaluating program impact

OE Resources Requested for the Strategic Objective

Given the political sensitivity of the program; the need to coordinate with Congress, the National Security Council, and the Department of State; the desire to work with a wide variety of grantees; and given the challenging host country operating environment, the program requires the full time management attention of a USAID Senior Foreign Service Officer and an AD-14 Program Officer.

OE Travel: To properly manage, monitor and evaluate the program, funds are required during FY 2000 for the USAID Senior Advisor/Coordinator for Cuba to (1) monitor grantee performance in the U.S. (2) travel to and within Cuba to meet with customers, coordinate with the U.S. Interests Section in Havana; and assess field conditions and results; (3) participate in program-related meetings, and (4) attend key conferences.

The following reflects past, current and expected travel expenses:

1998:	expended:	\$5,287
1999:	estimated:	\$2,329
1999:	anticipated:	\$3,000
2000:	anticipated:	\$6,000